HOME HEALTH CARE CLASSIFICATION (HHCC) SYSTEM

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ABSTRACT

The Home Health Care Classification (HHCC) System is a system designed to predict home health care needs and resource use for the Medicare population. The HHCC System translates clinical nursing parameters, medical parameters, ans socio-demographic data into a clinical case-mix classification for home health patients according to their expected care needs and utilization of home health resources.

The HHCC System is based on a conceptual framework using the nursing process to access patient information in a holistic manner. The Saba Taxonomies -- four sets of nursing of nursing parameters categorized by 20 home health components -- are used to not only assess, but also to code and classify care. They include: (1) 145 nursing diagnoses, (2) three expected outcomes, (3) 160 nursing interventions, and (4) four types of intervention actions. The patient is also assessed using 20 medical diagnoses and/or surgical procedure groups, and 10 socio-demographic data elements.

The HHCC System predicts: (a) **care needs** in terms of home health components and their respective nursing diagnoses and interventions; and **resource use** in terms of nursing and all provider visits (nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, medical social work, and home health aide). The medical assessment parameters and socio-demographic data elements are correlated with clinical nursing parameters.

The HHCC System is also designed to record the clinical care process for an entire episode of home health care by extending the clinical assessment parameters into critical care maps. It can be used to determine the cost of care, but also provide a prospective payment method for reimbursement.

The HHCC System is being used to run on a microcomputer using a portable notebook to facilitate ease of use for data collection. The HHCC System prototype is also available to run on the Apple Newton Notepad.

0195-4210/94/$5.00